

REMARKS

This is responsive to the Office action mailed October 27, 2003 in connection with the above-identified patent application. Each of the examiner's objections and rejections are addressed herein, and accordingly, reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Applicant acknowledges and confirms with this amendment that claim 13 (second occurrence) is renumbered as claim 14, thus addressing the objection to the claims.

Claims 2-4, 10-12 and 19-21 have been cancelled, rendering further action thereon as moot.

Claims 4, 5, 12, 13, 21 and 22 have been indicated as allowable if redrafted to include all base and intervening claim recitations.

Claims 1-3, 6, 8-11, 14, 15, 17-20, 23, 24 and 26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as anticipated by Peurach et al. Claims 1, 9 and 18 are further rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by Eibert et al. Claims 1, 7, 9, 16, 18 and 25 are also rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as obvious over the combination of Peurach and Matsutake.

Applicant has amended independent claim 1 to now include the element of a combiner that combines a plurality of search results (related to the plurality of instances of aspect and shear of the trained pattern) to located the object in six degrees of free-

dom where found relative positions of the instances are compared with known relative positions of the instances.

For a reference to anticipate a claim, it must include each and every element thereof. In this case, Neither Peurach, nor Eibert contain the teaching or suggestion of comparison of known instances to found instances. Likewise, Matsutake lacks this teaching, even if combined with the other cited references herein. Accordingly, Claim 1 as amended is neither anticipated nor made obvious by the prior art. Accordingly claim 1 and its remaining dependent claims are allowable.

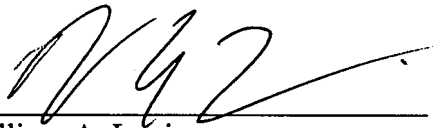
Independent method claim 9 and computer-readable medium claim 18 are, similarly, amended to recite the combination and comparing steps described generally above. Accordingly, these independent claims and their remaining associated dependent claims are also now allowable over the prior art for the above-stated reasons.

The application as newly amended is now in condition for allowance with each of the examiner's objections and rejections being either addressed or traversed. Applicant, therefore, respectfully requests that the examiner issue a Notice of Allowance at the earliest possible date.

Applicant earnestly solicits the examiner to contact the undersigned by telephone call to advance the prosecution in any respect.

Please charge any additional fee occasioned by this paper to our Deposit Account No. 03-1237.

Respectfully submitted,



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